



Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training

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Reciprocity Licensing Examination

Experienced law enforcement officers trained outside of Minnesota interested in obtaining employment as a peace officer in Minnesota may qualify to take the *Reciprocity Licensing Examination*. Qualification to take this exam is based on training and experience as explained below. Individuals should apply for and take the exam prior to seeking employment. You must be either licensed or eligible to be licensed to work as peace officer in Minnesota. Eligible to be licensed means you have passed the Minnesota POST Board's *Reciprocity Licensing Examination* and can meet state selection criteria.

The exam is administered by appointment on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. at the POST Board's office and takes approximately two and a half hours to complete. To apply for reciprocity, the application, all supporting documentation and the non-refundable fee of \$105.00 (payable to POST Board) must be submitted at least three weeks in advance of the date you wish to take the exam. Exam results will be mailed to you within two weeks. Once you successfully pass the exam, you are eligible to be licensed in Minnesota for a period of three years. Many law enforcement employment opportunities can be viewed on-line at www.post.mn.us. This information is updated weekly.

The *Reciprocity Licensing Examination* is a written, multiple-choice exam containing three sections: Minnesota criminal code, traffic code and juvenile justice laws. The exam is focused on the information Minnesota law enforcement officers need to know for day-to-day operations. To prepare for the exam, the most recent edition of the Minnesota POST Board's ***Criminal Code and Selected Statutes for Peace Officers*** should be studied. This publication may be obtained from Minnesota's Bookstore located at 660 Olive Street, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101 or call (651) 297-3000 or 1-800-657-3757. Alternatively, these statutes are available on the internet at the State of Minnesota Web Page www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/statutes.asp

RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS

(Pursuant to Minn. R. 6700.0501)

For the purposes of determining eligibility, the terms are defined as follows.

1. **Basic Police Education** means:

- A. a basic course recognized by a state council, state commission, state board, or state agency which leads to licensing or basic certification as a law enforcement officer where the appointing authority is located; or

- B. a basic course sponsored by the federal government for its law enforcement officers, including but not limited to the basic Drug Enforcement Administration's agent school, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's basic agent school or the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's uniformed patrol course or basic investigator's course. This does not include military training.

2. **Law Enforcement Officer** means:

- A. a person appointed or employed as a peace officer in another state, not including part-time peace officers, reserve peace officers, or auxiliary peace officers; or
- B. a federal law employee who has full powers of arrest, authority to carry a firearm, and is classified in a law enforcement position by the Office of Personnel Management, not including any time served in the United States armed services.

3. **Comparable Pre-employment Education** means:

- A. a post-secondary degree from a regionally accredited college or university and at least 3 years experience as a law enforcement officer since completing basic police training; or
- B. at least 5 years experience as a law enforcement officer since completing basic police training.

4. **Post-secondary Degree** means an academic title awarded by a post-secondary institution which is accredited by a member of one of the six regional accrediting associations and authorized to award degrees including, but not limited to, Associate of Arts (A.A.) degrees, Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degrees, and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees.

5. **Years of Experience** means the total number of years the applicant has been employed as a law enforcement officer since completing the basic police education course.

6. **Eligibility** means a person who has comparable pre-employment education, has at least three years of employment as a law enforcement officer *during the past six years* **and** a post-secondary degree **or** five years of employment as a law enforcement officer *during the past six years*, and who has not had his or her peace officer license, certificate, or the federal equivalent suspended or revoked.

7. **Duration of eligibility** means the one-year period the applicant has in which to take the examination after being approved by the Minnesota POST Board.

If you have any questions regarding the exam, please contact Dan Glass, Licensing and Testing Coordinator, at (651) 201-7784.

(02/12)